

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 37 (currently amended). A sanitizer composition having improved surface retention, comprising:

- (a) water; ~~and~~
- (b) about 1 ppm to about 3000 ppm of an organic peracid antimicrobial agent; and
- (c) a retention aid comprising (i) about 0.025 wt% to about 1.0 wt% of a biopolymer thickening agent, and (ii) about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt% of at least one surfactant wherein the composition has a viscosity of about 3 cP to about 15000 cP at 23°C.

Claim 38 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 further comprising a magnesium ion source.

Claim 39 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 wherein the biopolymer thickening agent is selected from polysaccharides and heteropolysaccharides.

Claim 40 (previously presented). The composition of claim 39 wherein the polysaccharides are selected from galactomannans, glucomannans, galactans, carrageenans, polyuronic acids, pectins, glucans, alginic acids and salts thereof; and the heteropolysaccharides are selected from gellan, whelan, natural gums and waxes, starch, and arabinogalactan.

Claim 41 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 in which the biopolymer thickening agent is selected from guar gum, a mixture of guar gum and xanthan, and a mixture of xanthan and glucomannan.

Claim 42 (currently amended). The composition of claim 37 wherein the organic peracid antimicrobial agent is selected from peracetic acid or a mixture of peracetic acid and another organic peracid ~~organic peracids, peracid generators, persulfates, peroxides, percarbonates, perchlorates, chlorine dioxide, hypochlorites, phenolics, iodine, iodides, iodophors, and mixtures of any two or more thereof.~~

Claim 43 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 wherein the surfactant is a mixture of a non-ionic and an ionic surfactant.

Claim 44 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 wherein the surfactant is a mixture of a non-ionic surfactant and an anionic surfactant, the non-ionic surfactant has a polar non-ionic group attached to a first alkyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms, the anionic surfactant has an anionic group attached to a second alkyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms, and the ratio of the non-ionic surfactant to the anionic surfactant is about 0.1:1 to about 0.5:1 .

Claim ~~46~~ 45 (previously presented). The composition of claim 44 in which the first and second alkyl groups are straight chain, the first alkyl group is substituted with the polar group on a terminal carbon atom, and the second alkyl group is substituted with the anionic group on a terminal carbon atom.

Claim ~~47~~ 46 (previously presented). The composition of claim 43 in which the non-ionic surfactant is a C8-C20 alkyl alcohol and the ionic surfactant is selected from salts of sulfate esters of linear aliphatic C8-C20 aliphatic alcohols.

Claim ~~48~~ 47 (previously presented). The composition of claim 37 in which the surfactant comprises a mixture of (i) lauryl alcohol and (ii) sodium lauryl sulfate, magnesium lauryl sulfate or a mixture thereof, in a ratio of (i) to (ii) is about 1:1 to about 1:5.

Claim ~~49~~ 48 (previously presented). The composition of claim 38 wherein the magnesium ion source is a magnesium salt in an amount of about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt%.

Claim ~~50~~ 49 (previously presented). A method for sanitizing a surface, comprising applying a the sanitizer composition of claim 37 to the surface for a time sufficient to sanitize the surface.

Claim ~~51~~ 50 (currently amended). The method of claim ~~50~~ 49 wherein the sanitizer composition further includes a magnesium ion source.

Claim ~~52~~ 51 (currently amended). A sanitizer kit comprising a first part and a second part, in which the first part comprises an aqueous solution or dispersion of an organic peracid antimicrobial agent, and the second part comprises a retention aid ~~including a surfactant~~, as defined in claim 37.

Claim ~~53~~ 52 (currently amended). The sanitizer kit of claim ~~52~~ 51 in which the surfactant comprises a mixture of (i) lauryl alcohol and (ii) sodium lauryl sulfate, magnesium lauryl sulfate or mixture thereof, in a ratio of (i) to (ii) of about 0.1:1 to about 0.5:1, and the retention aid further comprises a magnesium ion source.

Claim ~~54~~ 53 (currently amended). The sanitizer kit of claim ~~53~~ 52 in which the antimicrobial agent is peracetic acid or a mixture of peracetic acid and another organic peracid, and the magnesium ion source is a magnesium salt in an amount of about 0.01 wt% to about 3.0 wt%.